United Nations S/PV.6665

Security Council

Sixty-sixth year

Provisional

6665th meeting

Tuesday, 22 November 2011, 3 p.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Moraes Cabral	(Portugal)
Members:	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Mr. Barbalić
	Brazil	Mrs. Viotti
	China	Ms. Guo Xiaomei
	Colombia	Mr. Alzate
	France	Mrs. Le Fraper du Hellen
	Gabon	Mr. Messone
	Germany	Mr. Eick
	India	Mr. Hardeep Singh Puri
	Lebanon	Mr. Karanouh
	Nigeria	Mr. Amieyeofori
	Russian Federation	Mr. Karev
	South Africa	Mr. Sangqu
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. McKell
	United States of America	Mr. Simonoff

Agenda

Election of five members of the International Court of Justice (S/2011/452, S/2011/453 and S/2011/454)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.10 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

Election of five members of the International Court of Justice (S/2011/452, S/2011/453 and S/2011/454)

The President: The Security Council will now proceed with the election of the one remaining member of the International Court of Justice, in accordance with Article 13 of the Statute of the International Court of Justice, to fill the remaining seat that will become vacant on 5 February 2012.

Document S/2011/453 indicates, inter alia, the national groups by which each of the two remaining candidates was nominated.

On 10 November the Council conducted a total of five ballots. Today the Council will conduct a sixth ballot.

The Security Council has before it a memorandum by the Secretary-General, contained in document S/2011/452, describing the present composition of the Court and setting out the procedure to be followed in the conduct of the election. I should like to remind the Council that under Article 10, paragraph 1, of the Statute of the International Court of Justice.

> "Those candidates who obtain an absolute majority of votes both in the General Assembly and in the Security Council shall be considered as elected."

The required majority in the Security Council is eight votes.

The voting will be held by secret ballot. When we proceed to the vote, members of the Council will receive a ballot containing the names of the two remaining candidates. No withdrawal will be accepted once the ballot papers have been distributed. However, it will be possible to withdraw between ballots.

Members of the Council will be requested to place an "X" in the box next to the name of the candidate for whom they wish to vote. Only the two candidates whose names appear on the ballot are eligible for election.

I should like to remind members of paragraph 10 of the Secretary-General's memorandum contained in document S/2011/452, which specifies that

> "Each elector may vote for not more than five candidates on the first ballot".

Given that the Council will now vote to elect the one remaining member of the International Court of Justice, any ballot papers containing votes for more than one name will be considered invalid.

I should like to inform Council members that in accordance with established practice, the ballot papers in the Security Council will not be counted until it has been verified that the ballot papers in the General Assembly have also been collected. The Council will remain in session pending the receipt of that information.

When one candidate has obtained the required majority of votes in the Security Council, I shall communicate the result to the President of the General Assembly, and I shall request the Council to remain in session, pending the receipt from the President of the General Assembly of the result of the voting in the Assembly.

As Council members will recall, at the 6651st meeting of the Council, the delegations of Gabon and Nigeria were selected to serve as tellers.

At the invitation of the President, Mrs. Onanga (Gabon) and Mrs. Aguwa (Nigeria) acted as tellers.

The President: May I take it that the Council is now ready to proceed with the election of the one remaining member of the International Court of Justice?

It is so decided.

I request the conference officer to distribute the ballot papers.

* * *

The President: Members of the Council should place an "X" in the box next to the name of the candidate for whom they wish to vote.

* * *

The President: I take it that all the members of the Council have now voted and I ask the conference officer to collect the ballot papers.

* * *

The President: All the ballot papers have been collected. I should like to remind Council members that in accordance with the established practice, the ballots will not be counted until it has been verified that the ballot papers in the General Assembly have also been collected. The Council will remain in session pending the receipt of that information.

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The President: I have now been informed that the ballot papers have been collected in the General Assembly. The counting of the ballots in the Security Council will now begin. The tellers will now count the ballots. As agreed in our consultations, there will be two independent countings of the ballots, one by each teller. I should like to remind Council members that, in accordance with established practice, I shall wait for the General Assembly to complete its count before I announce the results of the voting in the Security Council. The Council will remain in session.

* * *

The President: The result of the voting is as follows:

Number of ballot papers:	15
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	15
Number of abstentions:	0
Required majority:	8
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr. Abdul G. Koroma	9
Ms. Julia Sebutinde	6

I should like to inform the members Council that I have received from the President of the General Assembly the following letter:

> "I have the honour to inform you that, at the 64th plenary meeting of the General Assembly, held today for the purpose of electing five members of the International Court of Justice, the following candidate obtained an absolute majority of votes in the General Assembly: Ms. Julia Sebutinde."

Accordingly, no candidate has received the required absolute majority of votes in the Council and in the General Assembly. As fewer than five candidates have received the required absolute majority of votes in both the Council and the General Assembly, the Council shall proceed to a seventh ballot for the remaining vacancy, in accordance with Article 11 of the Statute of the Court. I shall therefore adjourn this meeting of the Security Council and immediately call to order the next meeting of the Council to elect one candidate by a seventh ballot.

The meeting rose at 4.30 p.m.